

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

b13 Claim 1 (currently amended): Rear dérailleur device, for a bicycle equipped with a bicycle chain and a set of rear pinions comprising, in particular for a bicycle equipped with a front dérailleur, a chain connecting a set (14) of pinions with a set (92) of disks, as well as a synchronized control limiting the combinations for an adapted chain alignment and for reducing the necessary chain length, characterized in that it comprises:

- a rotatable base (30) provided with a return spring (42) forcing said base in an the anti-clockwise direction,
- guiding/dérailleur means (32) fixedly connected with said base, and
- a movable tension plate (34) fixedly connected with the guiding/dérailleur means (32).

Claim 2 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 1, wherein the movable tension plate (34) comprises a supporting arm (74), a tension arm (86) mounted pivoting relative to said arm (74), and a first (88) and a second (90) tension roller mounted rotatably at the ends of the tension arm (86), as well as a spring (82) forcing the tension arm (86) in the anti-clockwise direction, the chain passing over the first tension roller and under the second tension roller.

Claim 3 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 2, wherein the tension arm (86) is mounted on an axis (80) pivoting relative to the supporting arm (74), and that said axis is being disposed essentially in the centre of said tension arm.

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Claim 4 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 2, wherein the tension arm (86) is mounted on an axis (80) pivoting relative to the supporting arm (74), ~~and that~~ said axis ~~coincides~~ coinciding with the rotation axis of the second roller (90).

Claim 5 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a guiding/dérailleur roller located it carries at its end, immediately downstream, relative to a path and direction of travel of said chain, of the moveable tension plate (34) and in alignment therewith, said a guiding/dérailleur roller (68) being mounted freely rotatable, the chain passing over said guiding/dérailleur roller.

Claim 6 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 5, wherein the guiding/dérailleur roller (68) is supported in the plane of the chain by translation adjustment means.

Claim 7 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 5, wherein the guiding/dérailleur roller (68) comprises complementary lateral guiding/dérailleur

means ~~such as at least one flange (72).~~

Claim 8 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 5, wherein the guiding/dérailleur roller (68) comprises complementary lateral pression means ~~such as at least one lateral pression flange (73).~~

Claim 9 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 14 8, wherein the lateral pression flange (73) is mounted translationally variable.

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Claim 10 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 1, ~~wherein it comprises~~ further comprising connection means (400) interposed between the movable tension plate (34) and guiding/dérailleur means (32) so as to restrain the tensional stress of the chain and the return forces of the guiding/dérailleur ~~guiding~~ means.

Claim 11 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 10, said guiding/dérailleur means comprising a deformable parallelogram effective to adjust the lateral position of said chain relative to said set of rear pinions, wherein the connection means comprise a cable (400) which co-operates with a roller sector (402) attached to said movable tension plate, and with ~~the one (104) of the ends of~~ a return spring (406) of the deformable parallelogram of the guiding/dérailleur means.

Claim 12 (currently amended): Dérailleur device according to claim 1,
~~wherein it comprises~~ further comprising a crankcase for enveloping at least the rear
dérailleur device, the pinions, ~~the disks~~ and the chain.

Claim 13 (new): Dérailleur device according to claim 7, said complementary
lateral guiding/dérailleur means comprising at least one flange.

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Claim 14 (new): Dérailleur device according to claim 8, said complementary
lateral pression means comprising at least one lateral pression flange.

Claim 15 (new): Dérailleur device according to claim 1, said dérailleur device
being located in a vertical position that provides substantially the same or better
ground clearance relative to said set of rear pinions.